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SEATON VALLEY  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1941.

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SEATON VALLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: ..

Councillor Mrs. J. Sharp, J.P.,

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor G. Martin.

HEALTH COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN: Councillor W. Smith, J.P.,

MEMBERS: The whole Council.

OFFICIALS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health: .....

William Cunningham, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Deputy Medical Officer of Health: ...

Mrs. Evelyn M. Hall, M.B., B.S.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector: .. ..

Anthony Dorin, M.I.M. & C.E., C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector: .. ..

John W. Barker, M.R., San.I., M.S.I.A.,

Chief Clerk: Miss C.R. Crosby.

Junior Clerk: Miss E. Phillips.

Council Offices,

Seaton Delaval,

July, 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Seaton Valley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the District during the year 1941.

The Report has been prepared in an abridged form according to instructions from the Ministry of Health.

#### Diphtheria Immunisation.

The first scheme for the mass immunisation of school children was carried out in March and April, when 1300 children were protected against diphtheria. 120 children did not receive the second inoculation due to various causes.

The second scheme was carried out in November and December when 611 children were immunised. 65 children did not receive the second inoculation due to various causes.

25 children received the second inoculation from their own Doctors.

It is proposed to continue mass immunisation during 1942.

#### Infectious Diseases.

I have to record a decrease in cases of diphtheria, 70 cases in 1941 against 77 in 1940. The decrease was apparent in Cramlington Ward only.

There was also a decrease in cases of scarlet fever, 27 cases in 1941 against 48 in 1940.

#### Births:

The Birth rate is slightly higher than in 1940.

#### Deaths:

The death rate is slightly lower than in 1940.

#### Milk - Tuberculosis.

Four samples of milk were found to contain bacilli tuberculosis. Three cows were slaughtered inside the area which had been traced as a result of samples taken.

#### Milk Supply.

The supply of milk to the public and to schools was fairly well maintained, and no ill effects can be traced to a shortage of supply.

#### War Conditions.

Having regard to all war conditions the supply of essential foods has been maintained at a fairly satisfactory level, and I can find no evidence of malnutrition in any class of the people.

None of the indoor Staff joined H.M. Forces during 1941. Five of the outdoor cleansing staff joined H.M. Forces during 1940. One was discharged during 1941 and is now back in our employment. One man was released for work in the mines.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their sympathetic encouragement during a year of difficult and arduous conditions, and Mr. Dorin, Chief Sanitary Inspector and all the Staff for their constant loyalty and hard work.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

W. CUNNINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) - 12,459

Population: Registrar-General's estimate of population, mid-year 1941 - 25,050. (25,520 in 1940).

Inhabited Houses: 7,314 approximately at March, 1942.

Rateable Value - £102,331 at March, 1942.

Sum represented by a penny rate - £380

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births:	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	182	175	357
Illegitimate	<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>19</u>
	<u>194</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>376</u> (368)

Distribution of Births Registered in Seaton Valley Urban Area shewn in Districts:

District	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Totals
	M	F	M	F	
Cramlington	44	61	3	0	108
Seaton Delaval	15	21	1	0	37
Seghill	19	16	0	0	35
Earsdon	70	46	3	1	120
	<u>148</u>	<u>144</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>300</u>

76 births (39 males and 37 females) were registered in other districts. Of these 5 males and 6 females were illegitimate.

Birth Rate:

The birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 15.01 (14.43 in 1940).

Still Births:

11 (3 males and 8 females). (16 in 1940).

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births - 28.45 (41.66 in 1940).

Deaths:	Males	Females	Total
	155	131	286 (299 in 1940)

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of Age:

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	13	13	26
Illegitimate	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>26</u>

Distribution of Deaths in Districts:-

District	Males	Females	Total
Cramlington	50	38	88
Seaton Delaval	22	26	48
Seghill	19	15	34
Earsdon	64	52	116
	<u>155</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>286</u>

Death Rate:

The death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 11.42. (11.72 in 1940).

Corrected Death Rate:

The preparation and issue of the Comparability Factor have been suspended under present conditions, and it is not possible therefore to give the corrected death rate for 1941.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis - 1 (1)  
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still)  
births - 2.54. (2.60).

No. 30. Other maternal causes - 1. (2).  
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still)  
births - 2.54 (5.21).

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births - 70.50 (89.67)

Legitimate infants per 1,000  
Legitimate live births - 71.43 (89.13)

Illegitimate infants per 1,000  
illegitimate live births - 0.00 (111.11)

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) - 35 (35)  
Deaths from Measles (all ages) - 0 (0)  
Deaths from Whooping Cough - 3 (0)  
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 2 (3)

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There were no changes in:

- (a) Laboratory Facilities.
- (b) Ambulance Facilities.
- (c) Nursing in the Home.
- (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics.
- (e) Hospitals.

Laboratory Facilities:

The following examinations were made in the County Laboratory at Newburn:-

Examination Requested	Positive	Negative
Widal Reaction	0	2
Diphtheria ...	21	111
B. Tuberculosis	14	47
Streptococcus Haemolyticus	12	12
Faeces (For Organisms)	3	1
Undulant Fever	1	0

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water:

The water supply is obtained in bulk from the Tynemouth Corporation and the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and is distributed through the Council's Mains.

The supply is satisfactory in quality and quantity.

The water is controlled by bacteriological and chemical examination made by the Tynemouth Corporation and the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

Four samples of water - two Newcastle and Gateshead, and two Tynemouth Corporation - were submitted for bacteriological examination on our behalf and were found satisfactory.

Emergency Water Supplies:

Samples of water for bacteriological and chemical analysis were obtained from the following sources:-

West Farm Cottages, Seghill.	North Spring.
" " " " " "	South Spring.
Seghill Hall.	Open stream.

All were found to be unsatisfactory for domestic use.

Drainage and Sewerage:

Work on the sewerage schemes at Nelson Village and Hartford were commenced during the year.

Rivers and Streams:

No action was taken in the matter of pollution of rivers or streams in the area during the year.

Closet Accommodation	)	
Public Cleansing	)	
Sanitary Inspection of the District	)	These items are dealt
Shops and Offices	)	with in the Senior
Camping Sites	)	Sanitary Inspector's
Swimming Baths and Pools	)	Report.
Eradication of Bed Bugs	)	

Schools:

The sanitary condition and water supply of all schools in the area have been satisfactory.

SECTIONS D And E

relating to Housing and inspection and supervision of Food are dealt with in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever:

27 (48) cases of scarlet fever were notified. 25 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. Two cases were isolated at home.

There were no (1) deaths.

Distribution in the districts was:-

Cramlington	.....	8 (3) cases
Seaton Delaval	.....	5 (22) "
Seghill	.....	2 (2) "
Earsdon	.....	12 (21) "

Incidence of scarlet fever per 1,000 of the population was 1.08 (1.88).

Diphtheria:

70 (77) cases of diphtheria were notified during the year. All were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

There were three (4) deaths.

The ages of the fatal cases were 3, 4½ and 14 years. None of the fatal cases had been immunised.

Distribution in the districts was:-

Cramlington	.....	27 (51) cases
Seaton Delaval	.....	15 (7) "
Seghill	.....	2 (1) "
Earsdon	.....	26 (18) "

Incidence of diphtheria per 1,000 of the population was 2.79 (3.02).

132 throat swabs were submitted to the Laboratory during the year, and 21 proved positive for diphtheria.

16 cases had been immunised.

1936 (170) school children were immunised against diphtheria, distributed as follows:-

Cramlington	-	488 (170)
Seaton Delaval	-	418 (0)
Seghill	-	202 (0)
Earsdon	-	828 (0)

Incidence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria for the Year, separated into Districts, and houses of the following classes - Clearance Area Houses; Council Houses; Private Dwelling Houses.

District	Scarlet Fever			Diphtheria		
	C.A.	C.H.	P.D.H.	C.A.	C.H.	P.D.H.
Cramlington	0(1)	5(0)	3(2)	3(7)	14(3)	10(41)
Seaton Delaval	0(2)	1(6)	4(14)	0(0)	10(5)	5(2)
Seghill	0(0)	2(0)	0(2)	0(1)	1(0)	1(0)
Earsdon	0(0)	4(8)	8(13)	1(0)	14(7)	11(11)
	0(3)	12(14)	15(31)	4(8)	39(15)	27(54)

# Pneumonia:

10 (9) cases of Pneumonia were notified. 8 cases were treated at home; 2 were admitted to the Royal Victoria Infirmary,

Deaths - 13. (10).

Incidence rate per 1,000 of the population was .4. (.35).

# Erysipelas:

6 (9) cases of Erysipelas were notified. 5 cases were treated at home; 1 case was admitted to Walkergate Infectious Diseases Hospital.

There were no deaths.

## Notifiable Diseases (Excluding Tuberculosis) during 1941

Disease	Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox ...	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)
Scarlet Fever ..	27(43)	25(47)	0(0)
Diphtheria ...	70(77)	70(77)	3(4)
Enteric Fever ..	2(5)	2(5)	0(0)
Puerperal Pyrexia	3(4)	3(0)	0(0)
Pneumonia ...	10(9)	2(1)	13(10)
Erysipelas ...	6(9)	1(0)	0(0)
Dysentery ...	0(1)	0(1)	0(0)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)
Whooping Cough	120(26)	0(0)	3(0)
Measles' ...	100(665)	0(2)	0(0)
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1(5)	1(5)	0(1)

## Analysis of Total Notified Cases Under Age Groups

Disease	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over
Small pox ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever .	-	2	2	2	4	11	3	-	2	1	-	-
Diphtheria ...	-	-	3	1	3	20	26	9	6	1	1	-
Enteric Fever .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Pneumonia ...	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	2	1
Erysipelas ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	8	13	12	19	19	44	3	-	2	-	-	-
Measles' ...	5	6	7	15	8	58	1	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

## Prevention of Blindness:

No cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year.

# Tuberculosis:

At the beginning of the year there were 165 (152) cases on the register, 116 Pulmonary and 49 Non-Pulmonary.

19 (28) new cases, 18 Pulmonary and 1 Non-Pulmonary were reported during the year.

There were 12 (15) deaths, 11 Pulmonary and 1 Non-Pulmonary.

## New Cases and Mortality during 1941.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	2	4	1	-	1	3	-	-
25-	2	2	-	-	3	1	-	1
35-	3	1	-	-	2	1	-	-
45-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	10	8	1	-	6	5	-	1

## Distribution of Deaths in Districts

District	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Cramlington	2	-	-	-	2
Seaton Delaval	-	4	-	-	4
Seghill	-	-	-	-	-
Earsdon	4	1	-	1	6
	6	5	-	1	12

Death rate from Tuberculosis (all forms) was 65.22 (83.33) per 1,000 cases.

Death rate per 1,000 population was .48 (.58).

## Notification of Tuberculosis:

In five cases the death certificate was the only notification of Tuberculosis. No action was necessary to enforce notification of cases.

## Tuberculosis in Milk:

By taking samples of milk exposed for sale in the district, we were able to trace three cows suffering from Tuberculosis. These were slaughtered. The County Veterinary Inspector co-operated.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the milk trade) or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

## Scabies Order, 1941.

Steps have been taken to put into operation the terms of the Scabies Order, 1941.

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain infectious diseases in the Year 1941. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C.B.S. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adm. County.
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:-				
Live Births	14.2	14.7	16.4	8.9
Still Births	0.51	0.58	0.60	0.33
<u>Deaths:-</u>				
All causes	12.9	14.9	13.0	16.3
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.04
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.06	0.03
Influenza	0.19	0.17	0.20	0.15
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Rates per 1,000 Live Births:-				
Deaths under 1 year of age	59	71	56	68
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.1	7.5	4.6	6.8
<u>Notifications:-</u>				
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:-				
Typhoid Fever	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.04
Paratyphoid Fever	0.09	0.12	0.09	0.05
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.25	0.31	0.20	0.30
Scarlet Fever	1.47	1.49	1.51	1.01
Whooping Cough	4.39	4.37	4.50	3.50
Diphtheria	1.25	1.53	1.19	0.93
Erysipelas	0.30	0.36	0.27	0.50
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	10.33	8.27	10.47	4.77
Pneumonia	1.25	1.53	1.04	1.07
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still):-				
<u>Maternal Mortality:-</u> (Excluding Abortion)				
Puerperal Infection (No. 147)	0.48	Not Available		-
Others	1.75			
Total	2.23			
<u>Notifications:-</u>				
Puerperal Fever )	11.91	15.64	9.43	( 2.29
Puerperal Pyrexia )				( 19.33 including Puerperal Fever

## Causes of Death in Seaton Valley Urban Area

				M.	F.
ALL CAUSES				155	131
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	0	0
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	0	0
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	0	0
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	1	2
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	1	2
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	6	5
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	0	1
8.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	1	0
9.	Influenza	...	...	0	0
10.	Measles	...	...	0	0
11.	Ac. polio-myelitis & polio-encephalitis	...	...	1	0
12.	Ac. infantile encephalitis	...	...	0	0
13.	Cancer of b. cav. & oesoph. (M) & uterus (F)	...	...	4	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	1	3
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	0	3
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	12	9
17.	Diabetes	...	...	3	3
18.	Intra-cran. vasc. lesions	...	...	12	7
19.	Heart diseases	...	...	38	32
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	4	8
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	10	7
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	8	5
23.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	2	0
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	3	1
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	1	1
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	0	0
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	4	6
28.	Nephritis	...	...	4	4
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	...	...	0	1
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	0	1
31.	Premature birth	...	...	2	4
32.	Congenital malformation; birth injuries; infantile diseases	...	...	3	5
33.	Suicide	...	...	0	0
34.	Road Traffic accidents	...	...	3	0
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	11	5
36.	All other causes	...	...	20	13
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:				13	13
Total				13	13
Legitimate				13	13
Illegitimate				0	0
Total Live Births:				194	182
Legitimate				182	175
Illegitimate				12	7
Total Still Births:				3	8
Legitimate				3	6
Illegitimate				0	2
Population ...				25,050	

Council Offices,  
Seaton Delaval.

August, 1942.

To The Chairman and Members of the  
Seaton Valley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit my Report for the year ended 31st December, 1941. The Report is considerably curtailed as in the previous year due to increased duties caused by war conditions.

#### REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION

For the first six months of the year five motor vehicles (including one hired vehicle) and four horses and carts were engaged on this work.

In July a Dennis 12 c.yds. refuse collection vehicle costing £712 was delivered under licence from the Ministry of Transport. The hired vehicle was then dispensed with. In November a Scammel 9 c.yds. vehicle was delivered under licence from the Ministry of Transport at a cost of £697. This vehicle replaced our Morris vehicle (11 years old) which is now held as a spare vehicle.

At the beginning of the year the outside Staff numbered 31 - 2 working foremen, 5 motor drivers, 21 bin lifters and 3 youths. This number was increased by 6 bin lifters during the year. Several of the employees are advanced in years, consequently we cannot expect to obtain the best results.

One permanent employee was released for work in the mines. Two temporary employees were injured in our service and received compensation during the period of their incapacity.

Alterations and improvements to the Manners Gardens depot were carried out by your Surveyor's Department at a cost of £49.13.3d.

Collections from sanitary conveniences are made as follows:

Sanitary bins	-	twice per week.
Ash closets	-	once " "
Pail closets	-	twice " "
Privy ashpits	-	once in eight days.

Sanitary Conveniences number approximately 573 ashpits; 251 privies and 137 pail closets. In February 242 ashpits at Newtown Housing Estate, Cramlington, were replaced by sanitary ash bins.

#### REFUSE DISPOSAL

Refuse is disposed of on nine tips situate Shankhouse (2); Klondyke; East Hartford; West Cramlington; East Cramlington; Cramlington Village; Bank Top Farm, Holywell; "C" Pit, Backworth.

Four tips situate Seghill (2), Bates Cottages and East Cramlington were abandoned during the year. In February 25 acres of derelict land at East Cramlington were rented from The Hartley Main Collieries, Limited, in lieu of the abandoned tip, and refuse from Cramlington and Seaton Delaval is tipped there under controlled conditions. 250 yards of post and slab rail fence and 66 yards of drain were provided.

The tip (5 acres) at Bank Top Farm, Holywell, secured in 1939 was brought into use, and refuse from Bates Cottages, Earsdon and Shiremoor is tipped there under controlled conditions.

The following table gives the estimated tonnage of refuse collected and disposed of from 7,550 premises each month.

Month	Vehicles		Total
	Motor	Horse-drawn	
January ...	1993	565	2,558
February ...	1069	335	1,404
March ...	2330	439½	2,769½
April ...	1572	496	2,068
May ...	1754	504	2,258
June ...	1353	402½	1,755½
July ...	1360	481	1,841
August ...	1607	286½	1,893½
September ...	1622	483½	2,105½
October ...	1414	367½	1,781½
November ...	1936	475	2,411
December ...	1416	321½	1,737½
	18,800	5,157	23,957

The low figure for February is accounted for by the snow storm which lasted for six days and during which no refuse collection could be undertaken. All men and vehicles were diverted to snow clearing during that period.

Amount of refuse removed on basis of premises and population:-

	Per year	Per week	Per day
	T. C.	T. C.	T. C.
Per house or premises.	3. 3.4	1.22	- -
Per 1,000 population.	955. 19	18. 7.6	2 12.2

DETAILED COSTS OF REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1942.

	£	s.	d.
Wages and insurances ...	4,818	7	6
Superannuation ...	220	0	0
Hired haulage ...	286	13	4
Motor account ...	2,719	1	0
New vehicles (2) ...	1,400	14	1
Stable account ...	353	3	0
Disinfectants ...	3	5	0
Rents & Rates of Tips ...	88	5	5
Tools ...	11	6	9
Rat Catcher ...	9	9	0
Protective Clothing ...	19	14	0
Sundries (including works to Tips, Paper Baling Press & Materials).	329	1	4
	10,258	18	5
Less income ...	1,449	3	1
Nett expenditure	£ 8,809	15	4

The income from salvaged materials purchased two new refuse collection vehicles.

The cost per house or premises for the year ending 31st March, 1942, was 22/9.5d.

### SALVAGE OF WASTE MATERIALS

The salvage and disposal of essential materials was steadily proceeded with during the year. Every avenue was explored to this end, and the help of various voluntary organisations was enlisted. Valuable assistance was rendered by the Teaching Staff and children of every school, the Boy Scouts and the members of W.V.S. For the Salvage Drive in July and August our Return was one of the highest in the country, and again in October, as a result of Lord Beaverbrook's appeal, our Return for waste paper was one of the best.

Bi-weekly collections are made from all premises when refuse is collected, and all possible salvage is recovered from controlled tips. We have two salvage depots, situate Seaton Delaval and Shiremoor, where three youths are engaged in sorting and baling.

The collection of kitchen waste from part of the district was undertaken in March, and disposed of direct to local pig and poultry keepers. In other parts of the area pig keepers have their own collecting arrangements.

On the instructions of the Ministry of Supply, a survey of all railings and gates in the district was made in September, and a schedule submitted to them. These iron railings and gates will be removed by the Ministry of Works and Buildings.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

No observations were made during the year.

### WATER SUPPLY

Following complaints I took samples of water from the following districts and submitted them for bacteriological examination:-

- |        |                |   |  |
|--------|----------------|---|--|
| No. 1. | Shiremoor      | - | Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company. |
| 2.     | Wellfield      | - | " " " " " "                            |
| 3.     | Shankhouse     | - | Tynemouth Corporation.                 |
| 4.     | Seaton Delaval | - | " "                                    |

All were found satisfactory for domestic use.

Samples of spring water taken in connection with emergency water supplies are dealt with in the Medical Officer's Report.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Following cases of infectious diseases 97 inspections of premises were made, and all premises were fumigated. 27 library/found on the premises were destroyed.  
books

### INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOOD

Meat is brought into this Area and is examined at and distributed from the Seaton Valley Retail Butchers' Association Depot.

Carcases inspected:- beasts 265; sheep 919; pigs 237½.  
Meat condemned, surrendered and destroyed:- beef 163 lbs;  
mutton 20 lbs.

77 pigs were killed locally by butchers and allotment

holders.

Other food inspected, condemned and destroyed:-  
ham 52 $\frac{1}{4}$  lbs; biscuit meal 50 lbs; canned milk 34 tins;  
salmon 2 tins; steak 1 tin.

43 inspections of the Retail Meat Depot and 22 inspections of slaughterhouses were made and no action was necessary.

130 inspections of meat and food shops were made.

### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Fifty licences were in force at the beginning of the year, and all expired on the 31st March. Fifteen were renewed and one new licence was issued. Sixteen licences were in force at the end of the year.

### MILK SUPPLY

Farms and other premises used as Dairies	...	36.
Registered Milk Producers	...	30
Registered Milk Retailers	...	40
Number of cows kept	...	300 approx.

142 inspections of cowsheds and dairies were made during the year. Two notices to remedy defects were served and complied with.

One new licence to retail milk was issued.

Under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-41 all licences to produce and bottle graded milk are issued by the Northumberland County Council. Seven such licences to produce and bottle "Accredited" milk were in force in this Area.

The following retailing licences were issued:-

	<u>Dealers'</u>	<u>Supplementary</u>
Tuberculin Tested	-	2
Accredited	1	-
Pasteurised	3	2
	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>

47 samples of milk were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results:-

Designation	No.	M. B. Test			Coliform		Bacteria		T.B. Present
		S.	U.	Sour	S.	U.	S.	U.	
Ungraded	20	7	10	3	16	4	-	-	1
Accredited	24	7	9	8	18	6	-	-	3
Pasteurised	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
	47	14	19	11	34	10	1	2	4

As a result of tubercle bacilli having been found in a sample of ungraded milk, one cow was slaughtered. Two cows were slaughtered following the presence of tubercle bacilli in three samples of Accredited milk.

## SHOPS ACTS

300 inspections of shops were made and no action relating to heating, lighting, ventilation or sanitary accommodation was necessary.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:-

Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories (with mechanical power)	13	2	-
Factories (without mechanical power)	2 <u>15</u>	- <u>2</u>	- <u>0</u>

### 2. Defects Found:-

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)...	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):-		
Insufficient ...	-	-
Unsuitable or defective...	1	1
Not separate for sexes...	-	-
Other offences ...	- <u>2</u>	- <u>2</u>

## FRIED FISH SHOPS

Eight inspections of these premises were made and no action was necessary. These premises were not in full use during the year owing to restriction on supplies due to war conditions.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The 22 schools in this Area are provided with water carriage system. No action was necessary in regard to sanitary accommodation or water supply.

All schools were fumigated during the summer vacation and at various times following cases of infectious diseases.

## PETROLEUM AND CARBIDE OF CALCIUM

Eight licences to store petroleum were renewed for the year ending 31st December, 1941.

Thirteen licences to keep carbide of calcium for sale, and one licence to keep carbide of calcium for generating Acetylene Gas were issued for the year ending 31st December, 1941. One new licence was issued for three months ending

31st December, 1941.

No action was necessary in respect of any of the licensed premises.

#### HOTELS AND CINEMAS

Twenty inspections of hotels and places of entertainment were made and no action was necessary.

One notice to provide ventilation to water closet and urinal served during the previous year was complied with during 1941.

#### HOUSING ACT 1936

##### Section LX.

Two houses were inspected and preliminary notice served in each case to effect urgent and necessary repairs.

##### Section XL. (Individual Unfit Houses).

One individual unfit house was demolished. Two houses were vacated before re-housing of the occupants by the Local Authority and were closed.

##### Section XXV. (Clearance Areas).

176 houses situate in Clearance Areas were demolished. 31 houses were vacated before re-housing of the occupants by the Local Authority.

##### Section 62. (Entries in Rent Books).

Two notices relating to entries in rent books were served and complied with.

##### Erection of Houses.

No houses were erected during the year either by the Local Authority or by private enterprise.

#### DISINFESTATION

Individual cases of infestation occurred during the year and were satisfactorily dealt with by means of "Zaldecido" sprayed over all woodwork and walls.

#### CAMPING SITES, SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are no camping sites, swimming baths or pools in this Area.

#### BILLETING

The duties in connection with billeting of persons from evacuation areas and homeless persons were assigned to me as Chief Billeting Officer.

A considerable amount of labour is involved in the keeping of records, checking of billeting payments and in correspondence.

At the beginning of the year 108 persons from evacuation areas were officially billeted in this Area. Following enemy action in parts of this Area the figure increased to 242 when persons who had been rendered homeless were billeted, and billeting allowance was granted to householders on their behalf for four weeks. Many evacuees returned to their own homes, and at the end of the year 53 persons were on the Billeting Register.

Following enemy action in this Area immediate steps were taken to requisition all vacant condemned houses for the re-housing of homeless persons. Urgent repairs to make the premises fit for habitation were carried out, and 45 families were re-housed. Furniture removals were undertaken by the Local Authority.

The Ministry of Health sanctioned the repair of 16 condemned vacant houses in advance of occupation, and at the end of the year 22 were available for housing homeless persons.

At the request of the Ministry of Health a survey of the whole area was commenced in July for the purpose of ascertaining the number of available billets. The Ministry authorised the employment of two clerks for this purpose, and the work was completed in September.

Rest Centres are established throughout the Area and Billeting Officers and Assistant Billeting Officers have been appointed. Should occasion arise when their services will be required these Officers can be relied upon to carry out their duties efficiently.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

##### Section 93.

One Abatement Notice served in 1940 was complied with during 1941.

Two Abatement Notices in respect of nuisances existing at premises were served upon owners who had failed to comply with informal notices served upon them.

I tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their consideration; to the Medical Officer of Health for his help and advice at all times, and to the members of my Staff for their loyal assistance during the year.

Your obedient Servant,

ANTHONY DORIN

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

APPENDIX

Inspections.

Number for all purposes	...	...	2,302
Housing	...	...	121
Infectious Diseases	...	...	97
Shops	...	...	300
Meat and food shops	...	...	150
Slaughterhouses	...	...	65
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	142
Factories	...	...	15
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	8
Water supply	...	...	20
Drainage	...	...	20
Hotels & Places of Entertainment	...	...	20
Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	4

Notices.

Served during year	...	319
Complied with during year..	...	361

Works Executed.

Old drains removed	...	...	3 yards
New drains provided	...	...	104 "
New gullies provided	...	...	10
New water closets provided	...	...	8
New sanitary bins provided	...	...	141
Urinals provided	...	...	2
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	6